

Contractor Standard Fencing STD006

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EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY WORK STANDARD STD006

TASK: Fencing

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Objective: Operate machinery to undertake works including fence repair and construction

This document sets a standard expected by the Authority for machine operating tasks - the Contractor / Supplier of Services must adapt their Safe Work Procedure to meet or exceed these standards and ensure that a Safe Working Method Statement (SWMS) is completed with reference to the Contractor / Supplier of Services' procedures.

Fencing is a Working Outdoors activity- Relevant requirements of the Working Outdoors Standard (STD005) apply to this task before the controls specified in this document are applied.

When planning works under this Standard, the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety (Psychological Health) Regulations 2025 apply and must be considered.

Activity	Hazard Description	Control Measures - Actions to be Taken
<p>Transporting materials and machinery to and from site</p>	<p>Risk of injury during transport of heavy equipment to/from the worksite caused by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unstable load • machinery rollover • low-level bridges • exceeding load limits • travelling on narrow winding roads • oversized loads • oil leaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The driver and operator must be licensed and obey the road rules at all times. • Permits for oversize and restricted road use must be carried at all times. • All vehicles and plant must have a pre-start check documented. • All loads to be securely tied down using load binders. Lever type dog tie downs must not be used. • All anchor points on machinery are to be used in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines. • Floats and machinery are to be fitted with rotating flashing lights and movement alarms. • Bridge and road load limits must be adhered to at all times. • Pilot vehicles are to be used for transporting wide and long loads in accordance with the State transport regulations.

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<p>Loading/unloading of machinery</p>	<p>Risk of injury during loading and unloading of heavy machinery caused by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• slips, trips and falls• machinery rollover• manual handling of ramps, chains, etc <p>unrestricted public access</p> <p>Risk of injury during loading or unloading of rocks or logs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Load/unload trucks in compliance with all applicable regulations and organisational procedures, ensuring a stable load in transit with a strong emphasis on public safety and that of the workers.• A licensed operator must oversee the placement of ramps into position for loading or unloading of the equipment.• Where the contractor / Supplier of Services is responsible for providing traffic management controls for pedestrians and vehicles during unloading and loading of machinery, appropriate and required traffic management controls are to be used. Contractor / Supplier of Services staff must be appropriately trained in traffic management.• Unauthorised personnel are not permitted in the defined loading/unloading site.• A manual handling risk assessment must be undertaken.• Do not unload or load machinery under or near power lines or underground cables. <p>PPE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appropriate PPE must be worn at all times on the worksite.• Steel capped boots must be worn at all times on sites where machinery is operating.• Appropriate hand protection (gloves) must be worn when appropriate.• Hi-vis clothing must be worn by all workers on site.
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<p>Using heavy Machinery</p>	<p>Risk of injury due to the operation of heavy machinery at a site caused by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rollover on uneven terrain • contact with overhead or underground power lines • exposure to hazardous noise levels • machinery roll over on land or water • unrestricted public access • musculoskeletal injury due to poor ergonomic set out of work area • errors due to fatigue • risk of harm to the environment due to fuel or lubricant spills 	<p>All earthmoving equipment is to be fitted with ROPS built to specification and certified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never approach an excavator from the blind side of the Operator. To gain attention stand well outside the swing arc of the boom and wait until the operator indicates you should approach. Maintain eye contact with the operator. • Earthmoving equipment should work up and down the slope not across. • The worksite is to be established with a safe area identified, marked out, and recorded in the SWMS. • Ensure permits/licences are suitable and current. • Control site access to authorised persons only. • Provide traffic management controls where necessary. • Trucks carting materials to a stockpile shall give right of way to machinery and workers on the work site and will unload in the designated area as defined in the SWMS. • Adequate breaks must be taken by contractor / Supplier of Services personnel. • A spill kit must be present on site. <p>PPE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per “Loading/unloading of machinery”
<p>Burning of Heaps</p>	<p>Personal injury or damage to the environment resulting from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fire escaping burn site • smoke causing low visibility • formation of unstable debris heaps • use of accelerants • use of chainsaws to trim logs 	<p>Applicable control measures identified under “Using heavy machinery” apply to this task.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all relevant permits are held. Don't burn during fire restriction period without a permit. • Stack logs on even ground, in small manageable heaps. • Monitor weather closely and cease burn if winds rise to an unsafe level. • Burn only in cleared areas with surrounding fire breaks. • Allow burn to proceed only when firefighting unit/water cart and rake hoes are present. • Light using specifically designed firelighters, no other accelerants to be used at any time.

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Fence construction and repair - driving fence posts, fixing and tensioning wire and debris removal, chainsaw operation

Injury to workers caused by:

- unsafe manual handling of materials & equipment in use
- crush injury to limbs from rammer or sledgehammer or tractor mounted post driver
- use of fencing staples
- over tensioning fencing wire causing break and recoil
- unsafe use of electric drill for drilling posts
- shifting debris and tangled wire
- cuts and abrasions
- noise
- flying debris or wood chips

Applicable controls identified under “Using heavy machinery” when machinery is used must be applied to this task.

- The worksite is to be established with a safe area identified, marked out, and recorded in the SWMS.
- Personnel must be trained in safe manual handling techniques and complete a risk assessment for the task. Those techniques must be applied to the task.
- Chainsaw operators must be trained and have as a minimum qualification, Crosscut accreditation.
- The operator is to secure the posts so that they do not slip out.
- Wire spinners are to be used where practicable.
- Control site access to authorised persons only.
- Posts should be placed flat on the ground and a sound footing established before pointing.
- All wire and timber offcuts must be collected and removed from site.
- Refer to “Burning of Heaps” above for debris removal.

PPE

- As per “Loading/unloading of machinery”.
- Eye protection must be worn at all times.

When using a chainsaw:

When using a chainsaw all operators of chainsaws must have trim and cut felled trees qualifications.

Operators are to:

- Select the most suitable chainsaw for the task. Smaller chainsaws are easier to control and have a lower risk of injury from kickback and musculoskeletal disorder.
- Ensure the chainsaw is regularly maintained and clean to facilitate detection of loose, worn or defective parts and other safety hazards.
- Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional.
- Check the effectiveness of the chain brake and operating controls including interlock throttle system.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inspect fuel lines, tank, and the area around the carburettor for fuel leaks. Do not operate unit if leaks are found.• Wear mandatory PPE as prescribed by formal chainsaw training.• Only conduct chainsaw work at a safe distance (at least 10 metres) away from other workers.
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